

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR, OAS

SUBJ: PERUVIAN FOREIGN MINISTER DE LA FLOR' S SPEECH
AT FORMAL OPENING OF OAS SPECIAL COMMITTEE

SUMMARY: PERU' S FOREIGN MINISTER DE LA FLOR POSTULATED
ARCHAIC, COLD WAR NATURE OF INTER- AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS
AND CALLED FOR THOROUGH- GOING OVERHAUL, NEW " EQUAL"
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN U. S. AND LATINS AND NEW ASSEMBLY
PLUS TWO COUNCIL SETUP, ONE FOR DEVELOPMENT AND THE
OTHER FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS. WITHIN THIS SETUP WOULD
BE INSTITUTIONALIZED CECLA- TYPE MECHANISM AS WELL AS
INTER- AMERICAN DIALOGUE WITH THE UNITED STATES. END
SUMMARY.

1. DE LA FLOR POSTULATED TWO CRUCIAL MOMENTS IN HISTORY
OF HEMISPHERE, THE FIRST WHEN CONTINENT ORGANIZED AGAINST
EXTRA- CONTENTAL AGRESSION AND THE SECOND WHEN
U. S. AND LATIN AMERICA INSTITUTIONALIZED RELATION-
SHIP IN WHAT EVENTUALLY BECAME INTER- AMERICAN SYSTEM.
THE SECOND PERIOD SAW PRE- EMINENCE OF U. S. AS THE GREAT
POWER OF HEMISPHERE. IN THIS CONTEXT INTER- AMERICAN
SYSTEM RESTED ON DEFENSE AGAINST EXTRA- CONTINENTAL
AGGRESSION AND ON AN INTRA- CONTINENTAL TUTELAGE.

2. DE LA FLOR CALLED RIO TREATY CULMINATION OF PROCESS
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OF HEGEMONY FOR UNITED STATES AND A DOCTRINAL CONCEPTION
RESPECTABLE BUT DUBIOUS IN ITS RELATION TO REALITY."
IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO THINK OF SECURITY WITHOUT CON-
SIDERING DEVELOPMENTAL ASPECTS/ AVOIDANCE OF EXTRA-

CONTINENTAL AGGRESSION HAD SERVED AS PRETEXT FOR MAINTAINING STATUS QUO

3. DE LA FLOR DEVOTED CONSIDERABLE TIME TO CRITICIZING "COERCIVE" ASPECTS OF RIO TREATY AND WHAT HE TERMED LACK OF REALITY IN STRESSING REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY, WHEN IN FACT "IDEOLOGICAL PLURALISM" REQUIRED RECOGNITION OF RIGHT OF EACH STATE TO ADOPT ITS OWN IDEOLOGY AND ITS OWN POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SYSTEMS HE CALLED FOR SYSTEM TO DEVOTE EQUAL EFFORT TO "COLLECTIVE ECONOMIC SECURITY."

4. OTHER PRINCIPAL THEME IN HIS SPEECH HAD TO DO WITH NEED TO RECTIFY THE CURRENT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE COUNTRIES OF LATIN AMERICA. SYSTEM WAS AT THE SERVICE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMERCE AND OF PATERNALISM, AND HAD LEFT TO ONE SIDE THE MAJOR ISSUE OF THE "UNCONTROLLED ACTION" OF SOME MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES. DE LA FLOR ASSERTED IT WAS TIME TO BREAK THE TABOO ABOUT CONDUCTING DIALOGUE IN THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM WITH RESPECT TO MODALITIES OF FOREIGN INVESTMENT.

5. DE LA FLOR ALSO EULOGIZED CECLA AS A PRECURSOR AND A POSITIVE STEP TOWARD THE FORMATION OF LATIN AMERICAN GROUPING AND CALLED FOR INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM TO SERVE TWO LEVELS OF DIALOGUE, ONE BETWEEN LATIN AMERICA AND THE U. S. AND ANOTHER AMONG LATIN AMERICANS THEMSELVES.

6. IN GENERAL TERMS HE OUTLINED PERUVIAN IDEAS FOR CHANGES IN THE CURRENT INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM TO INCLUDE:

A. AN ASSEMBLY OF AMERICAN STATES TO DECIDE ON THE GENERAL POLICY OF HEMISPHERIC RELATIONS,

B. TWO PERMANENT AND INDEPENDENT COUNCILS, ONE FOR POLITICAL AND JURIDICAL MATTERS AND THE OTHER FOR DEVELOPMENT. THE BUDGETARY COSTS FOR THESE WOULD
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BE SHARED BY ALL THE MEMBER STATES BUT THE SITE OF THESE TWO NEW PERMANENT COUNCILS SHOULD BE IN LATIN AMERICA. BOTH COUNCILS WOULD PROVIDE FOR MEETINGS OF CONSULTATION,

C. A FINANCIAL ORGANIZATION, "AUTHENTICALLY MULTILATERAL," THAT WOULD FUNCTION IN CLOSE COLLABORATION WITH THE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL -- A RESTRUCTURED INTER-AMERICAN BANK.

7. HE ENDED BY SAYING THAT FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEM HAD TO DO BASICALLY WITH POLITICAL WILL OF UNITED STATES AND OF GOVERNMENTS OF LATIN AMERICA AND THAT REFORM

OF INTER- AMERICAN SYSTEM MUST RESPOND TO THE ACCELERATED
PACE OF CHANGE. ALTHOUGH SPEECH WAS CRITICAL OF PAST
U. S. ROLE AND OFFERED PROPOSALS KNOWN TO BE DIFFICULT
FOR U. S., IT ALSO CALLED FOR REALISTIC U. S. - LATIN
DIALOGUE WITHIN SYSTEM FOR THE " MUTUAL ADVANTAGE" OF
ALL. TONE OF LOCAL PRESS REPORTING WAS FACTUAL AND
MODERATE.
BELCHER

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